



# CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION NATURAL GAS WORKING GROUP MEETING

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## CPUC Mandated Strength Testing and Shutdown Valves For Gas Transmission

- Based on information learned from the San Bruno Gas Incident, CPUC ordered PG&E, Southwest Gas, SoCalGas, and SDG&E to file implementation plans for testing or replacing all gas transmission pipelines not tested to modern state and federal safety standards.
- Filed plans must also address measures for adding shutdown valves (automated or remote) for timely stopping flow of gas from a severally breached pipeline.

# CPUC Mandated Strength Testing and Shutdown Valves For Gas Transmission

- The CPUC has decided on implementation plans filed by PG&E and Southwest Gas and is working on the joint plan filed by SoCalGas and SDG&E.
- Work at Southwest Gas is expected to be completed no later than next year; however, all work related to PG&E, SoCalGas, and SDG&E will take several years to address all segments of pipelines which have been prioritized for action.

# CPUC Mandated Strength Testing and Shutdown Valves For Gas Transmission

- The CPUC expects the mandated safety work to proceed in a manner that addresses the highest priority work, is performed safely and accurately, and without undue disruptions to the reliability of all customers, including those with critical needs for gas supply (hospitals, electric generators, large industrials, etc.)

# CPUC Mandated Strength Testing and Shutdown Valves For Gas Transmission

- To balance safety and reliability, the CPUC expects operators to:
  - Perform mitigation measures where warranted (i.e., pressure reductions, more leak surveys and patrols, etc.);
  - Coordinate schedules with critical users of gas to perform the needed work at times when a service disruption can be reduced or avoided.
  - Where a line can be tested, but cannot be taken out of service for testing, it can be a candidate for replacement if an operator can offer strong support.



# CPUC Mandated Strength Testing and Shutdown Valves For Gas Transmission

- Thus far, the Gas Safety and Reliability Branch is not aware of any major disruptions to power generators or other users of large volumes of gas resulting from the pipeline testing/replacement mandates issued by the CPUC;
- However, curtailments of gas due to unforeseen safety events, or pressure reductions necessitated by inspection findings, always remains a possibility.

**THANK YOU.**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**